

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A ~~test~~-cable comprising:

a center conductor;

a conductive sleeve having a first end and a second end and an effective electrical length equal to an odd quarter wavelength of a frequency of interest, surrounding a portion of the center conductor, with the first end physically and electrically coupled to the center conductor;

a dielectric spacer, located inside the conductive sleeve, for preventing another portion of the center conductor from physically and electrically coupling to the conductive sleeve; and

a dielectric joint, coupled to the second end of the conductive sleeve, for positioning a portion of the center conductor in a middle of the second end.

2 (currently amended). A ~~test~~-cable according to claim 1 wherein the center conductor includes a single wire.

3 (currently amended). A ~~test~~-cable according to claim 1 wherein the center conductor includes multiple wires.

4 (currently amended). A ~~test~~-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric spacer is constructed from a rigid dielectric material.

5 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric spacer is constructed from a compressible dielectric material.

6 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric spacer comprises a spherical dielectric element.

7 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 6 wherein a diameter of the spherical dielectric element is shorter than a diameter of the conductive sleeve.

8 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 6 wherein the center conductor is located inside the dielectric spacer along a diameter of the dielectric spacer.

9 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 6 wherein the dielectric spacer comprises multiple spherical dielectric elements.

10 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric spacer comprises a tubular solid dielectric element with an outer diameter and an inner diameter.

11 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 10 wherein the center conductor is located inside the dielectric spacer along a longitudinal axis of the tubular solid dielectric element.

12 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 10 wherein the outer diameter of the tubular solid dielectric element is approximately a diameter of the conductive sleeve and the inner diameter of the tubular solid dielectric element is larger than a diameter of the center conductor.

13 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 10 wherein the dielectric spacer further comprises a tubular air dielectric element inside the tubular solid dielectric element.

14 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric joint comprises a spherical dielectric element.

15 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 14 wherein a diameter of the spherical dielectric element is approximately equal to a diameter of the conductive sleeve.

16 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 14 wherein the center conductor is located inside the dielectric joint along a diameter of the dielectric joint.

17 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the first end comprises a conductive bushing

18 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 17 wherein the first end further comprises a hemispherical dielectric cover.

19 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the conductive sleeve is cylindrical in shape.

20 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric joint is constructed from a rigid dielectric material.

21 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 1 wherein the dielectric joint is constructed from a compressible dielectric material.

22 (currently amended). A test-cable comprising:

a first rigid segment having an effective electrical length equal to an odd quarter wavelength of a frequency of interest;

a flexible joint, coupled to one end of the first rigid segment;

a second rigid segment having an effective electrical length equal to an odd quarter wavelength of the frequency of interest, coupled to the flexible joint; and

a linear conductor, located within the first rigid segment, the flexible joint, and the second rigid segment.

23 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 22 further comprising:

a first dielectric spacer, located inside the first rigid segment; and

a second dielectric spacer, located inside the second rigid segment.

24 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 22 further wherein the first rigid segment comprises a conductive sleeve with one end electrically coupled to the linear conductor.

25 (currently amended). A test-cable according to claim 24 wherein the flexible joint comprises a dielectric element that maintains a portion of the linear conductor in a middle of the conductive sleeve.